

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 1 as follows:

A1 This application is a division of Application No. 09/726,542, filed December 8, 2000, and now U.S. Patent No. 6,448,686, the entire content of which is hereby incorporated by reference in this application.

Please amend the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 14, as follows:

~~In~~It would thus be beneficial to increase stator core production capacity by reducing a lengthy stator core stacking cycle and eliminating lamination stacking difficulties and rework caused by the poor ability to provide an appropriate key bar location. It would also be beneficial to utilize standard low cost stator frame designs and to eliminate noise caused by a vibrating stator core impacting the key bars.

A2